

## COMMITTEE REFLECTION: OCTOBER

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### Opening Prayer

Eternal God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

You have called us to be spiritual leaders of your body, this church.

Help us to surrender our hearts and minds to you;

To humbly seek your voice;

To boldly do your will;

To compassionately share your love;

To faithfully be your servants;

And to reverently lead your people

Bless all that we do,

So that we can do what you bless.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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### Hannah Whitall Smith, *The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life*

[The Christian life's] chief characteristics are an entire surrender to the Lord, and a perfect trust in Him, resulting in victory over sin and inward rest of soul; and it differs from the lower range of Christian experience in that it causes us to let the Lord carry our burdens and manage our affairs for us instead of trying to do it ourselves.

Most Christians are like a man who was toiling along the road, bending under a heavy burden, when a wagon overtook him, and the driver kindly offered to help him on his journey. He joyfully accepted the offer but when seated in the wagon, continued to bend beneath his burden, which he still kept on his shoulders. "Why do you not lay down your burden?" asked the kind-hearted driver. "Oh!" replied the man, "I feel it is almost too much to ask you to carry me, and I could not think of letting you carry my burden too." And so Christians, who have given themselves into the care and keeping of the Lord Jesus still continue to bend beneath the weight of their burdens, and often go weary and heavy-laden throughout the whole length of their journey.

When I speak of burdens, I mean everything that troubles us, whether spiritual or temporal.



### Reflection Questions:

- What does this say about God's nature, our nature, and our relationship with God?
- What does this quote say to us about the nature of Christian leadership?